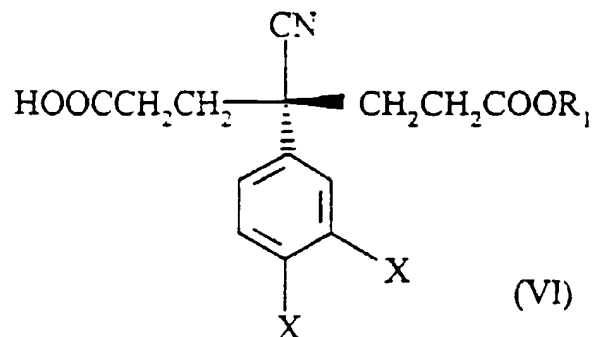


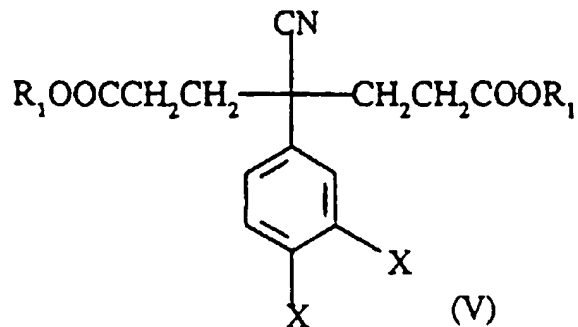
In the Claims

Claims 1-13. (Cancelled)

Claim 14. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula:



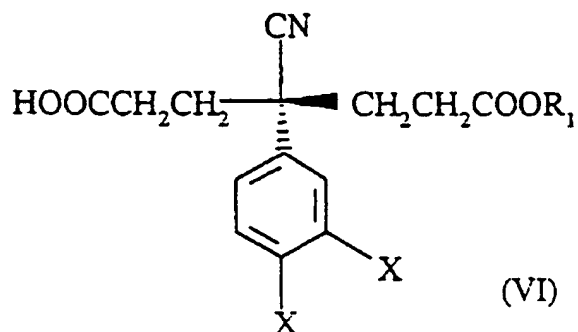
in which R_1 represents a linear C_1 - C_4 - alkyl and X represents a halogen which comprises treating, with an enzyme, a compound of formula:



Claim 15. (Previously presented) A process according to Claim 14 wherein use is made of an enzyme chosen from lipases, esterases and proteases.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) A process according to Claim 15 wherein use is made of *Candida cylindracea* or *Candida rugosa* lipase or esterase, separately or as a mixture.

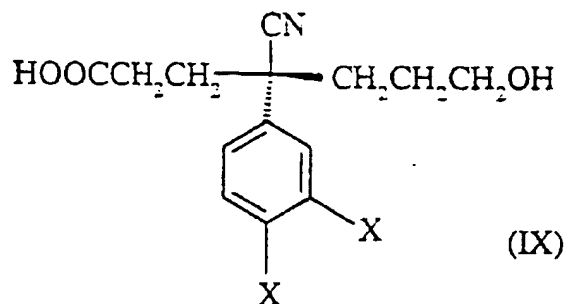
Claim 17. (Previously presented) A compound of formula:



wherein X represents a halogen, and R₁ represents a linear C₁-C₄-alkyl.

Claims 18-20 (Cancelled)

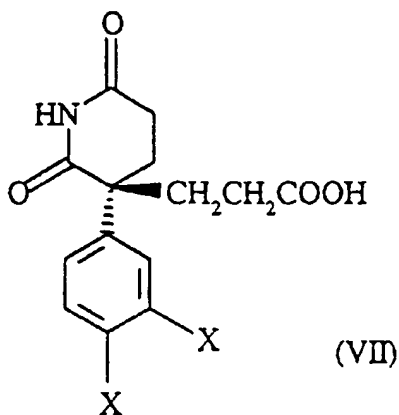
Claim 21. (Previously presented) A compound of formula:



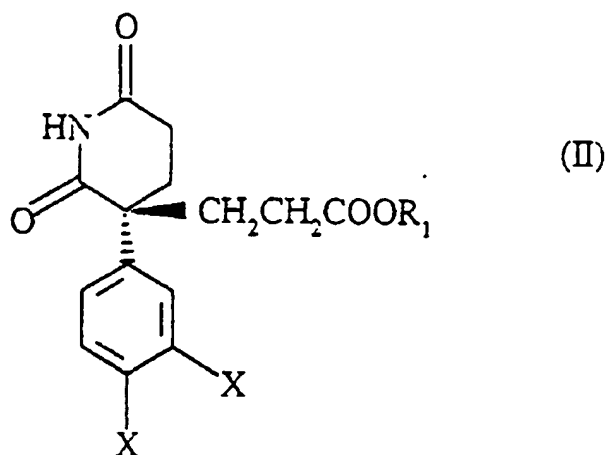
in which X represents a halogen.

Claims 22-24 (Cancelled)

Claim 25. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (VII):

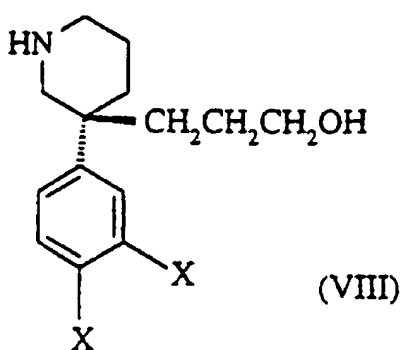


wherein X represents a halogen, which comprises hydrolyzing a compound of S configuration corresponding to the formula

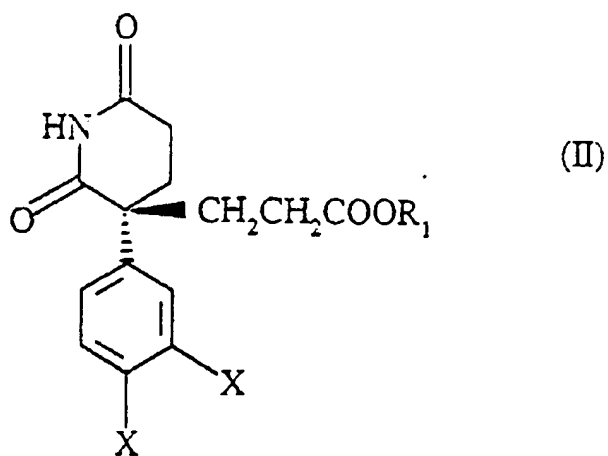


in which X represents a halogen and R₁ represents a linear C₁-C₄ alkyl.

Claim 26. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (VIII):

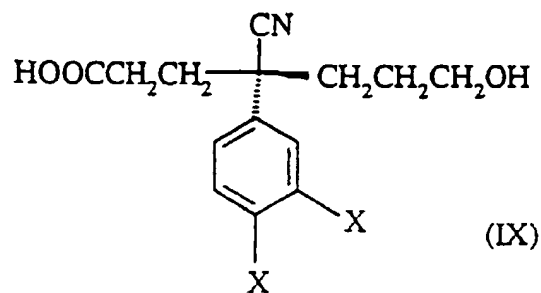


wherein X represents a halogen, which comprises reducing a compound of S configuration corresponding to the formula



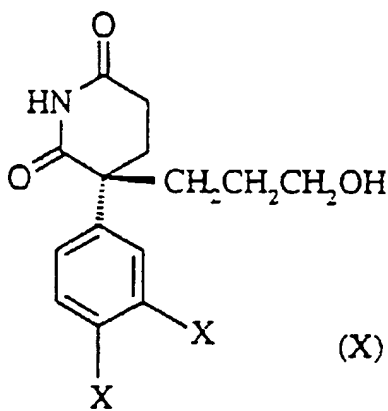
in which X represents a halogen and R₁ represents a linear C₁-C₄ alkyl in the presence of a reducing agent.

Claim 27. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of the formula (IX):



wherein X represents a halogen, which comprises reducing a compound according to Claim 17 in the presence of an alkaline hydride.

Claim 28. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (X):



wherein X represents a halogen, which comprises cyclizing a compound according to Claim 21.